

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pneumatic tire having a rubber component where the rubber in said component is comprised of

- 5 (A) from 1 to 25 weight percent of high impact polystyrene; and
(B) from 75 to 99 weight percent of a rubber containing olefinic unsaturation.

2. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said component is comprised of from 2 to 10 weight percent of high impact polystyrene.

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3. The pneumatic tire of claim 2 wherein said high impact polystyrene is modified with polybutadiene.

4. The pneumatic tire of claim 2 wherein said high impact polystyrene is
15 modified with styrene-butadiene rubber.

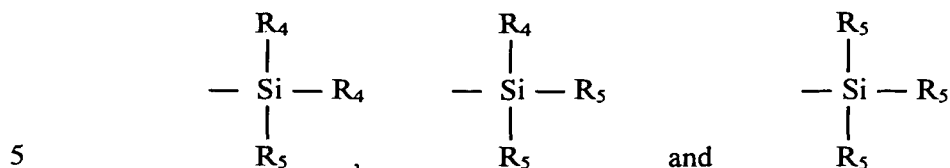
5. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said rubber is selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, neoprene, polyisoprene, butyl rubber, halobutyl rubber, polybutadiene, styrene butadiene copolymer, styrene/isoprene/butadiene rubber, methylmethacrylate-butadiene copolymer, isoprene-styrene copolymer, methylmethacrylate-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, carboxylated rubber, EPDM, silicon-coupled star-branched polymers, tin-coupled star-branched polymers and mixtures thereof.

25 6. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein from 0.5 to 20 phr of a sulfur containing organosilicon compound is present and is of the formula:



30 in which Z is selected from the group consisting of

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where R₄ is an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, cyclohexyl or phenyl; R₅ is alkoxy of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, or cycloalkoxy of 5 to 8 carbon atoms; Alk is a divalent hydrocarbon of 1 to 18 carbon atoms and n is an integer of 2 to 8.

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7. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said composition is thermomechanically mixed at a rubber temperature in a range of from 140°C to 190°C for a total mixing time of from 1 to 20 minutes.

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8. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said tire is selected from the group consisting of passenger tires, motorcycle, aircraft tires, agricultural, earthmover, off-the-road and truck tires.

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9. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 where said tire is a radial.

10. A pneumatic tire of claim 1 wherein said rubber component is selected from the group consisting of a tread cap, tread base, sidewall, apex, chafer, sidewall insert, wirecoat, beadcoat, innerliner and ply coat.

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11. The pneumatic tire of claim 10 wherein said component is a tread.

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